

Abstract

A filter cartridge having a unitary construction with a pleat pack filter formed securely about an interior screen for installation in the tube sheet of a baghouse. Opposite ends of the pleat pack are integrally received within a bottom end cap and an upper fitting. The bottom end cap may be molded to follow the contour of the pleat pack, or may be molded as a disk with an inwardly projecting groove to centrally align the pleat pack therein. The upper fitting is formed of a resiliently flexible material and includes an upper flange to overlie and seal with the upper surface of the tube sheet, a tube sheet mouth insert to seal with a circular opening in the tube sheet, a contoured transition to seal with the lower surface of the tube sheet, and a lower cylindrical collar which permanently secures the upper end of the filter. The contoured transition of the fitting is alternatively molded with either an exterior bulge or an interior bulge. The transition with an exterior bulge is resiliently deformed inwardly to pass through the circular opening of the tube sheet during installation. The transition with an interior bulge freely passes through the circular opening of the tube sheet during installation and then receives an expander to outwardly deform the material to seal with the lower surface of the tube sheet. The upper flange of the fitting may be formed as circumferential scallop edge to facilitate tool access for removal of the expander.